

receiving his Ph.D. in Diplomatic History at Georgetown University, Ralph Nurnberger began teaching in the Liberal Studies Degree Program. Over more than two decades he has taught courses in the Liberal Studies Program that focused on American foreign relations, the American national character and international relations, ideals and American foreign policy, Congressional relations and American foreign policy. Most recently he has been teaching a course on the aftermath of 9/11, considering the domestic and international aftermath for the United States.

Dr. Nurnberger's teaching has been accomplished with extensive experience in the field of domestic and international affairs and their interaction. His Capitol Hill experience included serving as foreign policy legislative assistant to Senator James Person (R-Kansas) and as a professional staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He has been a senior Fellow and director of Congressional Relations for the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). He spent over eight years as a lobbyist for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). In the wake of the Rabin-Arafat signing of the Oslo Accords he was appointed the Executive Director of an organization, "Builders for Peace," set up with the guidance of then Vice-President Al Gore to help the Arab-Israeli peace process. His current position is that of Counsel with Preston Gates Ellis and Rouvelas Meeds law and lobbying firm and he also heads a government relations firm, Nurnberger and Associates. While teaching and filling these positions he has published extensively in major newspapers and journals. His most recent book deals with lobbying in America; his others have dealt with foreign policy and the political process.

Student evaluations applaud the examples and insights he can offer from real life experiences which are tempered and refined by his intellectual understanding and historical perspective. Students are particularly impressed with Dr. Nurnberger's ability to decipher complicated and contentious issues and make them understandable. His courses are engaging and insightful. In addition, students value the skillful balance he offers on these subjects, which in turn leads to thoughtful conversation and debate in class. He has become an example for the students in how to conduct civil discourse regardless of the intensity of emotion generated by a subject or the individual's own principles and convictions.

Over the years Ralph Nurnberger has patiently and meticulously directed numerous student theses, often against great odds but with sincere concern and unforgiving academic precision. When extraordinary demands were made on his time and attention his steady, generous commitment to the student's project made successful completion possible.

Today, we honor Ralph Nurnberger for his academic excellence which he transmits to and requires from his students; for his intellectual integrity whatever the issue; for his generous guidance of students' research; for his loyalty and enthusiasm for teaching Liberal Studies students these many years; for his ability to make sense of a so often chaotic world and America's role in that world. We are pleased to present him with the Excellence in Teaching Faculty Award for the year 2003.●

FATHER WILLIAM SHERMAN

● Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, for almost a half century a Catholic priest in North Dakota has lived a remarkable double life. In one guise, Father

Bill Sherman is a holy man, the kind of warm and perfect parish priest who would have once been played by Spencer Tracy. But in his other role, he is the talented scholar and painstakingly diligent chronicler who, like no other authority, commands the ethnic history of North Dakota.

Because Father Sherman is retiring this month from the religious vineyards, I want to take note of his remarkable alter ego—that of the State's most eminent ethnic historian.

He has been a key player over the last 20 years in producing four impressive volumes on the subject—"Plain Folks: North Dakota's Ethnic History," "Prairie Mosaic: An Ethnic Atlas of Rural North Dakota," "African Americans in North Dakota," and the most recent book, "Prairie Peddlers: Syrian-Lebanese in North Dakota," which is now coming off the presses. In addition, he was also one of the authors of "Scattered Steeples, The Fargo Diocese, A Written Celebration of Its Centennial."

His volumes on the State's ethnic heritage are extraordinary works—painstakingly researched, rich with thoughtful analysis, brightly written, and handsomely designed. They are works of careful scholarship of a high order and a real treasure for anyone intrigued with the marvelous ethnic diversity of America.

Born in Detroit in 1927, Father Sherman grew up in North Carolina and Oregon before his family moved to Lidgerwood, ND. After high school, he joined the Army, serving in the Philippines and Japan at the end of World War II. He graduated from St. John's University in Collegeville, MN, got a bachelor's degree from North Dakota State University and a master's degree from the University of North Dakota and became a priest in 1955.

He has served the parishes of the Cathedral of St. Mary in Fargo from 1955 to 1962, the Newman Center at the University of North Dakota from 1962 to 1964, St. Raphael's in Verona from 1964 to 1965, the Newman Center at NDSU from 1965 to 1975, St. Patrick's in Enderlin from 1975 to 1976 and finally the diocese's largest parish, the 5,000-member strong St. Michael's of Grand Forks for 27 years.

At UND, he taught religion and, at NDSU, where he is now professor emeritus, he taught sociology of religion and sociology of the Great Plains. He has received numerous awards, most recently an honorary doctorate of leadership degree from the University of Maryland.

In a profile of Father Sherman this month, the Grand Forks Herald said, "Sherman's style, of being a sometimes gruff, no-nonsense defender of old-fashioned, blue-collar Catholicism, while being genial good company to anyone, and wearing his academic accomplishments lightly, attracted many to the parish. It's difficult, if not impossible, to find a discouraging word said about Sherman, a fairly remarkable fact

about any member of the clergy who stays in one spot a long time."

And a few days later, the editor of the newspaper called Father Sherman "a remarkable man—a priest first and foremost, a man of old-fashioned faith, but also a scholar, a witty conversationalist, a polished orator, an able administrator, a distinguished patriot, a community builder, a cool head in a crisis, a giver and an excellent friend to many thousands of people both within and outside his church."

Father Sherman is also a survivor. During the disastrous Red River flood of 1997, one of the worst to ever strike an American community, his parish was completely flooded and his church, school and rectory suffered heavy damage. Among the most painful losses was Father Sherman's collection of North Dakota history, a singular treasury of volumes on the State's heritage. But the indomitable cleric is now busy rebuilding that library and at work writing several more books, one on the transfer of Eastern European architecture to the Great Plains at the time of settlement and a second on another remarkable North Dakota priest who served during World War II with the Polish resistance.

It is clear that retirement to Father Sherman means something different than it does to the rest of us. Not only will he still minister on a part-time basis to Roman Catholics, but he will continue to energetically research and write about intriguing aspects of North Dakota's ethnic legacy.

Although he has already provided a valuable and outstanding body of work on ethnic heritage, North Dakotans are grateful for his continued interest in the field. He is a scholar of the first order, a priest of the classic and finest model, and an exemplary citizen indeed.●

HONORING DONOVAN RILEY CLARKSON

● Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, I have the privilege and honor of rising today to recognize Mr. Donovan Riley Clarkson of Paducah, KY. Donovan was recently recognized for his accomplishments in dance.

This 10-year-old gentleman copes daily with the effects of central auditory processing disorder. In a person who suffers from this disorder, information is not correctly processed from the ear to the brain. This makes daily activities, from hearing conversations to hand-eye coordination, difficult to complete. Nevertheless, Donovan has not allowed this disorder to interfere with his dreams and accomplishments.

Donovan performs with a dance troupe at the Beverly Rogers Dance Academy. His family enrolled him in dance four years ago after a medical professional suggested that the movement could help his condition. Every day after school, Donovan practices the assigned dance routine. He must practice twice as hard as his teammates in